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Mail Stop: Patent Application Commissioner for Patents

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Dear Sir:

PATENT Attorney Docket No.: 04265352

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label No. EL 989704555 US Date of Deposit: March 11, 2004

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Rebecca Castro

Signature of Person Mailing Papers

Transmitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is the patent application of inventor Marcus Braun, of Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany, entitled Surgical Instrument. This application claims priority from German Application No. 103 14 828.0, dated April 1, 2003.

Enclosed are:

- 1. [X]19 text pages of specification, including 14 claims, and an Abstract.
- Drawings 5 sheets, including Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6a-c. 2. [X]
- An unexecuted Declaration and Power of Attorney. 3. [X]
- The filing fee is calculated on the basis of the claims existing in the application at 1 4. [X] above.

		Claims as File Claims Canceled		nt			
	(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	SMALL ENTITY			OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	XXXX	.\$385	or	XXXX	\$ 770.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	14 - 20 =	0	x9=	\$ 0	or	x18=	\$ -
INDEP CLAIMS	1 - 3=	0	x43=	\$ 0	or	x86=	\$ -
[] MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENTED			+145=	\$ 0	or	+290=	\$ -
If the difference in Col. 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in Col. 2.			TOTAL	\$ 0		TOTAL	\$ 770.00

- 5. A check in the amount of \$770.00 to cover the filing fee for this application. If there are [X]any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this application, please charge the additional fees to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019.
- A Return Postcard for the PTO to acknowledge receipt of this filing. 6. [X]

- 7. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees during the pendency of this application or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 13-0019. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
 - Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17. [X]
 - [] The issue fee set in 37 CFR §1.18 at or before mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.311(b).

Please address all telephone calls to David M. Thimmig at telephone number (312) 701-8593 and address all correspondence to:

> David M. Thimmig MAYER, BROWN, ROWE & MAW LLP P.O. Box 2828 Chicago, Illinois 60690-2828

> > Respectfully submitted,

APRIL 1, Dated: March 31, 2004

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